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Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/665,926

Examiner

Hwei-Siu C. Payer

Applicant(s)

LEE, VICTOR W.

Art Unit

3724

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to amendment filed on 6-21-2005.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-10 and 12-21.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 16 March 2005 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

Hwei-Siu Payer
 Primary Examiner

Reasons for Allowance

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Claims 1, 7, 14 and 20 as amended are allowable over the prior art of record. Support for the newly added limitations in the above claims can be found on page 13, lines 9-24 and page 14, lines 1-2.

Regarding to claims 1 and 14, none of the prior art of record taken alone or in combination thereof shows a first attachment device of a first knife comprising a first plate and a third plates each having an opening and the openings of the two plates aligned with each other for receiving a protrusion on a second plate of a second attachment device of a second knife, and wherein the protrusion can only be inserted into the openings of the first plate and the third plate when the second plate is at an angle with respect to the first plate and the third plate, and wherein after the protrusion has been inserted into the openings of the first plate and the third plate, and while the protrusion resides in the openings of the first plate and the third plate, the second plate can be put into alignment with respect to the first plate and the third plate by rotating the second plate with respect to the first and the third plates until the second plate becomes aligned with respect to the first and third plates.

Regarding to claims 7 and 20, the combination of Schaub (U.S. Patent No. 4,908,947) and Bolling (U.S. Patent No. 2,456,858) as set forth in the last Office action shows the opening in the first plate of the first attachment device having a first substantially rectangular portion, a substantially circular portion and a second

substantially rectangular portion, and wherein the opening receives a protrusion formed on a second plate of a second attachment device. However, once the protrusion is inserted into the opening at an angle (i.e. 0 degrees), one cannot rotate the second plate with respect to the first plate until the second plate becomes aligned with respect to the first plate.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Prior Art Citation

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Tsai shows attaching two knife blades together by inserting a protrusion (3) on a first knife blade (2) into an opening (11,111) formed in a second knife blade (1), wherein the protrusion (3) can only be inserted into the opening (11,111) when the first knife blade (2) is at an angle with respect to the second knife blade (1), and then rotating the first knife blade (2) with respect to the second knife blade (1) for attaching the two knife blades together.

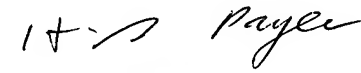
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Point of Contact

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Hwei-Siu C. Payer whose telephone number is 571-272-4511. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday, 7:00 am to 4:00 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Allan N. Shoap can be reached on 571-272-4514. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are 571-273-8300 for official communications and 571-273-4511 for proposed amendments.

H Payer
July 8, 2005


Hwei-Siu Payer
Primary Examiner